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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USNATO 12043

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SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: REVISED DRAFT

REF: (A) USNATO 11823 (DTG 252151Z NOV 77); (B) USNATO
11724 (DTG 231842Z NOV 77); (C) USNATO 11925 (DTG 291117Z
NOV 77); (D) STATE 282924 (DTG 260130Z NOV 77); (E)
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1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 6 THE REVISED DRAFT OF THE DPC
MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (JDEG(77)122), WHICH THE DEFENSE
REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) WILL ADDRESS ON DECEMBER 2.
2. THIS REVISED TEXT INCORPORATES THE BULK OF U.S.
RECOMMENDED CHANGES (REFS B-E) AND, WE BELIEVE, IS NOW A
BALANCED AND ACCURATE DOCUMENT. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE,
HOWEVER, AT THE DECEMBER 2 DRC REVIEW OF THIS DRAFT, WE
WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO RESIST PROBABLE ALLIED AMMEND-
MENTS WHICH WOULD WATER DOWN THE MESSAGES COMMUNICATED, AS
THE TEXT HAS BEEN ALTERED SUBSTANTIALLY AND A NUMBER OF
ALLIES WERE UNDER ONLY PARTIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE
NOVEMBER 30 DISCUSSION.

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3. AT THE DECEMBER 2 DRAFTING SESSION, WE PROPOSE,
THEREFORE, TO SUPPORT THE PRESENT TEXT AND LIMIT OUR
AMENDMENTS TO CLARIFICATION OF THE LANGUAGE ON THE LONG
TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (PARA 5). OUR SPECIFIC COMMENTS AND
OVERVIEW OF THE NOVEMBER 30 DISCUSSION WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

4. THE ONLY BRACKETS IN THE PRESENT TEXT (PARA13 NATO

AEW) RESULT FROM GERMAN AND ITALIAN COMMENT, UNDER FIRM INSTRUCTIONS THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES HAD NOT YET AGREED TO FUND THE RELATED R AND D ACTIVITIES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 2.

6. BEGIN TEXT OF DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE:
MEETING OF THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 6TH AND WEDNESDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 1977

2ND DRAFT OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE

1. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION MET IN MINISTERIAL SESSION IN BRUSSELS ON 6TH AND 7TH DECEMBER, 1977.

2. MINISTERS RE-EMPHASISED THAT THE ASSURANCE OF SECURITY IS INDISPENSABLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF FREEDOM AND PROGRESS IN THEIR SOCIETIES AND FOR THE FURTHERING OF DETENTE. THEY REVIEWED THE STATE OF SECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE IN THE LIGHT OF ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS ON DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THEIR LAST MEETING. THEY RECEIVED AN APPRAISAL ON THE MAIN DEFENCE ISSUES BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THE MILITARY POSITION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MILITARY COMMITTEE.

3. MINISTERS REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE WESTERN POSITION IN NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS WHICH IS SEEKING A MORE STABLE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP BY REMOVING CURRENT DISPARITIES IN FORCES IN EUROPE AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPROVEMENT IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS. THEY REAFFIRMED THE WESTERN POSITION IN THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS AND THE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT NATO FORCES BE MAINTAINED AND NOT REDUCED EXCEPT IN THE CONTEXT OF A MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST, WHICH MUST IN NO WAY DIMINISH THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE. MINISTERS NOTED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TALKS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ON THE LIMITATIONS OF STRATEGIC ARMS AND REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED CLOSE CONSULTATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE ON ISSUES ARISING IN THESE TALKS.

4. REVIEWING THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT, MINISTERS AGAIN STRESSED THAT THE THREAT POSED BY THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT HAS

A DIRECT BEARING ON THE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEFENCE OF NATO. IN THIS CONTEXT THEY AGAIN EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN AT THE CONTINUING MOMENTUM OF THE MILITARY PROGRAMMES OF THE SOVIET UNION DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ITSELF AND THE WARSAW PACT WITH INCREASINGLY CAPABLE OFFENSIVE GROUND, NAVAL AND AIR FORCES, TO IMPROVE ITS STRATEGIC ATTACK CAPABILITIES AND TO IMPROVE THE COMMAND AND CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE FORCES. MINISTERS NOTED THAT THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT FORCES ARE BEING INCREASED FAR IN EXCESS OF WHAT WOULD BE REASONABLY NEEDED FOR DEFENCE. MINISTERS NOTED THE GROWING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS.

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5. MINISTERS RECALLED THAT AT THE LONDON SUMMIT MEETING IN MAY, 1977, IT WAS AGREED TO CONDUCT A FRESH STUDY ON THE LONG-TERM TRENDS IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND TO DEVELOP A LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME TO ENABLE NATO FORCES TO MEET THE CHANGING DEFENCE NEEDS OF THE 1980S. THEY REVIEWED A REPORT ON PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN PREPARING SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE COLLECTIVE ACTION WAS URGENTLY REQUIRED. WITHIN THESE PROGRAMMES MINISTERS IDENTIFIED AND APPROVED THE MAIN ACTION AREAS ON WHICH ATTENTION SHOULD BE FOCUSED IN DEVELOPING CO-OPERATIVE AND CO-ORDINATED DEFENCE PROGRAMMES IN THE MEDIUM AND LONGER TERM FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL BY MINISTERS IN THE SPRING AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSMISSION TO THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT. THEY AGREED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A POSITIVE OUTCOME TO THESE INITIATIVES.

6. MINISTERS ALSO ENDORSED THE PROMPT AND POSITIVE OUTCOME OF THE ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME OF SHORT-TERM FORCE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF ANTI-ARMOUR, WAR RESERVE STOCKS, AND READINESS AND REINFORCEMENT. THEY NOTED THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ALLIANCE WILL INCREASE BY END-1978 HOLDINGS OF ANTI-ARMOUR MISSILES BY ABOUT ONE-THIRD AND PLAN SIMILAR IM-
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PROVEMENTS IN STOCKS OF OTHER CRITICAL WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS. NATIONAL REPLIES TO THE SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES BOTH ENHANCED NATO'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES AND PROVIDED A DEMONSTRATION OF THE ALLIANCE'S WILLINGNESS AND CAPABILITY TO ACT EXPEDITIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

7. MINISTERS TOOK STOCK, IN THEIR REVIEW OF THE OUTCOME OF THE 1977 NATO DEFENCE REVIEW, OF NATIONAL FORCE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEFENCE OF THE ALLIANCE PLANNED FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THEY CONCLUDED THAT SIGNIFICANT FORCE IMPROVEMENTS HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN 1977 AND THAT MORE WOULD MATERIALISE AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CURRENT PLANS LEADS TO A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN COMBAT CAPABILITIES THROUGHOUT THE ALLIANCE.

8. MINISTERS AGREED THAT EFFECTIVE STEPS MUST BE TAKEN IN THE PREPARATION OF NEW FORCE GOALS FOR NATO TO COVER THE PERIOD UP TO 1984, AND IN FURTHER WORK ON THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME TO REDRESS THESE DEFICIENCIES AND, AS A RESULT, REDUCE THE DISPARITY IN CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITIES BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. THEY RECOGNIZED THAT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVES WOULD CONTINUE TO REQUIRE REAL ANNUAL INCREASES IN DEFENCE EXPENDITURE AS CALLED FOR IN THE 1977 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND THAT INCREASED EMPHASIS MUST BE PLACED IN DEFENCE BUDGETS ON ALLOCATIONS TO MAJOR RE-EQUIPMENT AND MODERNIZATION PROGRAMMES. THEY REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING THE OPTIMUM USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES THROUGH CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS IN DEFENCE PLANNING, BOTH IN THE MEDIUM AND LONGER TERM.

9. IN GENERAL, WHILE MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN AT THE SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES WHICH STILL REMAIN IN THE DEFENCE CAPABILITIES OF THE ALLIANCE, THEY WELCOMED THE GROWING RESOLVE AND WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND TO THE INCREASES IN THE
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WARSAW PACT'S MILITARY CAPABILITIES BY TAKING THE INITIAL STEPS TO CORRECT CRITICAL SHORT-TERM WEAKNESSES AND TO ESTABLISH A SOUNDER BASE FOR LONGER TERM DEFENCE IMPROVE-

MENT PROGRAMMES. MINISTERS AGREED THAT, PROVIDED THE NECESSARY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE MADE AVAILABLE AND USED EFFECTIVELY BY ALL MEMBER NATIONS, AN ADEQUATE CONVENTIONAL POSTURE ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN THE NATO TRIAD OF STRATEGIC, THEATRE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES IS WITHIN REACH.

10. MINISTERS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE EFFORTS THAT PORTUGAL AND TURKEY WERE MAKING FROM THEIR OWN RESOURCES TO IMPROVE THEIR FORCE CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THE URGENT NEED FOR BOTH OF THESE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE TO RECEIVE EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE MODERNIZATION AND SUPPORT OF THEIR FORCES. THEY AGREED THAT IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE TO PROVIDE THIS ASSISTANCE AND UNDERTOOK TO REVIEW THE CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH THEIR OWN COUNTRIES WERE MAKING. THEY CONFIRMED THEIR VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOLIDARITY AND VITAL SECURITY OF THE ENTIRE ALLIANCE OF THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF DEFENCE CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK.

11. MINISTERS TOOK NOTE WITH INTEREST OF A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP (MINISTER SOGAARD OF DENMARK) ON THE GROUP'S DISCUSSION IN MINISTERIAL SESSION ON 5TH DECEMBER. THEY WELCOMED THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF EUROPEAN FORCE IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR THE COMING YEAR; AND REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THEY ATTACH TO THE EUROGROUP'S EFFORTS TO ENSURE A STRONGER AND MORE COHESIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE'S DEFENCE EFFORT THROUGH

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CLOSE CO-OPERATION ON A WIDE RANGE OF PRACTICAL ISSUES.

12. MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN IMPROVING THE INTEROPERABILITY OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE PRIORITY AREAS COVERED BY THE WORK OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY, SUCH AS COMMUNICATIONS, AIRBORNE MUNITIONS AND FUELS. THEY ENDORSED THE STEPS BEING TAKEN TOWARDS A PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. IN THIS REGARD THEY NOTED THE DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS (CNAD) TO SET UP A NATO ARMAMENTS PLANNING REVIEW. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR OTHER EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE CNAD TO IMPROVE STANDARDIZATION OR INTEROPERABILITY THROUGH CO-OPERATIVE EQUIPMENT PROGRAMMES AND EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION. IN THIS RESPECT THEY AGREED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN TO REMOVE OBSTACLES TO COLLABORATION, IN PARTICULAR, IN AREAS SUCH AS THE GRANTING OF LICENSES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CO-PRODUCTION.

13. MINISTERS NOTED THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT OF A REVISED CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR A NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING FORCE COMPRISING E-3 AND NIMROD AIRCRAFT. THEY REVIEWED THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS AGREEMENT ON AN

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ACCEPTABLE MEANS OF SHARING THE PROGRAMME COSTS OF THE E-3 ELEMENT OF THE MIXED FORCE, (BEGIN BRACKETS) AND AGREED TO PROVIDE INITIAL FUNDING FOR THE NECESSARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES LEADING TO A STANDARDIZED E-3 AIRCRAFT FOR BOTH THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND NATO (END BRACKETS). THEY COMMISSIONED PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO MONITOR PROGRESS, WITH THE AIM OF IDENTIFYING EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR A FINAL PACKAGE PROPOSAL SUITABLE FOR REVIEW THROUGH NATIONAL PROCESSES, WITH A VIEW TOWARDS FINAL APPROVAL BY MINISTERS AT THE SPRING 1978 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING.

14. THE DEFENCE MINISTERS AGREED TO NATO'S CONTINUING NEED FOR A SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME AND ENDORSED THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE'S PLANNING ACTIONS TO DATE. SPECIFICALLY, THEY REQUESTED A STATUS REPORT CONCERNING SIZE AND COST-SHARING OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THEIR MEETING IN THE SPRING OF 1978 IN PREPARATION FOR A FINAL AGREEMENT PRIOR TO THE END OF 1978.

15. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, MINISTERS DESIGNATED NATIONAL FORCES COMMITTED TO THE ALLIANCE FOR 1978 AND APPROVED THE NATO FORCE PLAN FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 1982. THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR PLEDGE TO DO THEIR UTMOST TO ENSURE THAT THE NECESSARY RESOURCES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING TO

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE NATO'S FORCE CAPABILITIES AND THEIR
DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE CO-OPERATIVE VENTURES
WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. END TEXT. BENNETT

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